

DEVELOPMENT ANTHROPOLOGY 2020/2021  
MASTER IN DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION STUDIES



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**WORKSHOP 2 - ENVIRONMENT**

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“In one of his most deterministic - and most famous - statements, Marx wrote that whereas a hand mill creates a society led by feudal landlords, the steam mill creates a society led by industrial capitalists. A cultural ecologist might, perhaps, retort that whereas a tropical savannah creates societies of pastoralists and millet-growers, a tropical rainforest creates societies of hunter-gatherers and horticulturalists”

- Eriksen

**Thomas Eriksen, *Small places, large issues: an introduction to social and cultural anthropology***

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## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXTS = DIFFERENT TYPES OF SOCIETY**

- HUNTERS AND GATHERERS
- HORTICULTURALISTS
- AGRICULTURALISTS
- PASTORALISTS
- PESANTS
- INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES

# Hunters and gatherers

Simple technologies,  
labour distinction  
based on gender  
and age, basic  
familiar  
settlements,  
egalitarian political  
system.  
Subsistence,  
nomadic/non-  
nomadic



PICTURE SOURCE [HTTPS://UNSPLASH.COM/PHOTOS/GOGGHBVHYW?](https://unsplash.com/photos/gogghbvhyw?utm_source=unsplash&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=creditcopytext)  
UTM\_SOURCE=UNSPLASH&UTM\_MEDIUM=REFERRAL&UTM\_CONTENT=CREDITCOPYTEXT



Simple technologies used for gardening; labour distinction based on gender and age; A few staple food, such as: tubers, corn, dry rice; reduced surplus production. Rights to land based on lineage. Largely semi-nomads. Small settlements 100-500 peoples

## Horticulturalists

PICTURE SOURCE [HTTPS://WWW.DAILYMAIL.CO.UK/NEWS/ARTICLE-6285875/PAPUA-NEW-GUINEA-SKELETON-TRIBE-DRESS-CORPSES-SCARE-ENEMIES.HTML](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6285875/papua-new-guinea-skeleton-tribe-dress-corpse-scare-enemies.html)

# Agriculturalists

Sedentary peoples, complex technology (i.e. ploughs and draughts animal; irrigation systems). Complex division of labour, based on a religious/socio-political organisation (i.e. priests, blacksmiths, chiefs, warriors...). Big surplus stocked.



PICTURE SOURCE [HTTPS://ARCHITECTURALGUIDANCE.BLOGSPOT.COM/2008/07/BANAUE-RICE-TERRACES-IFUGAO-PROVINCE.HTML](https://architecturalguidance.blogspot.com/2008/07/banaue-rice-terraces-ifugao-province.html)



Semi-nomad or (rarely) sedentary societies living mostly in symbiosis with agriculturalists with whom they practice barter. Simple subdivision of labour based on age and gender. Most communities are very small in number, due to the precariousness of their subsistence conditions and the need of flexibility. Very strong and often ritually marked bond between males and their cattle.

## Pastoralists

PICTURE SOURCE [HTTPS://ARTSANDCULTURE.GOOGLE.COM/ASSET/DINKA-CHILD-AND-WHITE-BULL-SOUTH-SUDAN-CAROL-BECKWITH-ANGELA-FISHER/-GGFDIMU9BPFNA](https://artsandculture.google.com/asset/dinka-child-and-white-bull-south-sudan-carol-beckwith-angela-fisher/-ggfdimu9bpfna)

# Pesants

Sedentary communities based on agricultural economy. Today most people live in this condition. Access to land is not based on ancestral territories, in that land is a good one can buy with money. A huge surplus can be produced and economy is governed by market.



PICTURE SOURCE [HTTP://WWW.EUBIA.ORG/CMS/2018/02/05/EXEMPTION-FOR-THE-GLYPHOSATE-BAN-IN-FRANCE/](http://www.eubia.org/cms/2018/02/05/exemption-for-the-glyphosate-ban-in-france/)





Characterised by a highly structured differentiation of labour based on formal education and individual contracts, these societies have separated economic, political, religious institutions. There is a central government, with juridical systems for social control and a market economy.

## **Industrial societies**

PICTURE SOURCE [HTTPS://WWW.BBC.COM/NEWS/WORLD-ASIA-35584879](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-35584879)

**IN DIFFERENT KINDS OF SOCIETY THERE CAN BE THREE DIFFERENT PRINCIPLES REGULATING THE CIRCULATION OF GOODS:**

- 1. RECIPROCITY: TYPICAL OF THE SO-CALLED GIFT ECONOMIES;**
- 2. REDISTRIBUTION: TYPICAL OF SOCIETIES WITH A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, AIMED AT THE REINFORCEMENT AND LEGITIMISATION OF AUTHORITY**
- 3. MARKET: BASED ON A TRUE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ACTORS INVOLVE, IT REPRESENTS AN IMPERSONA FORM OF EXCHANGE**



## RECIPROCITY

**A GIVES X TO B.  
ACCEPTING X,  
B ACCEPTS THE  
MORAL  
OBLIGATION TO  
GIVE BACK Y  
TO A ONE DAY**



**GENERALISED  
RECIPROCITY: AN ALWAYS  
OPEN RELATION AMONG  
NEIGHBOURS, RELATIVES,  
VILLAGE MATES  
BALANCED RECIPROCITY:  
BETWEEN TWO GROUPS,  
OFTEN INSTITUTIONALISED  
AND RITUALISED  
INVERSE OR NEGATIVE  
RECIPROCITY: FAIDA.**



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When the ecological niche collapse...

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... the modes of subsistence collapse as well...

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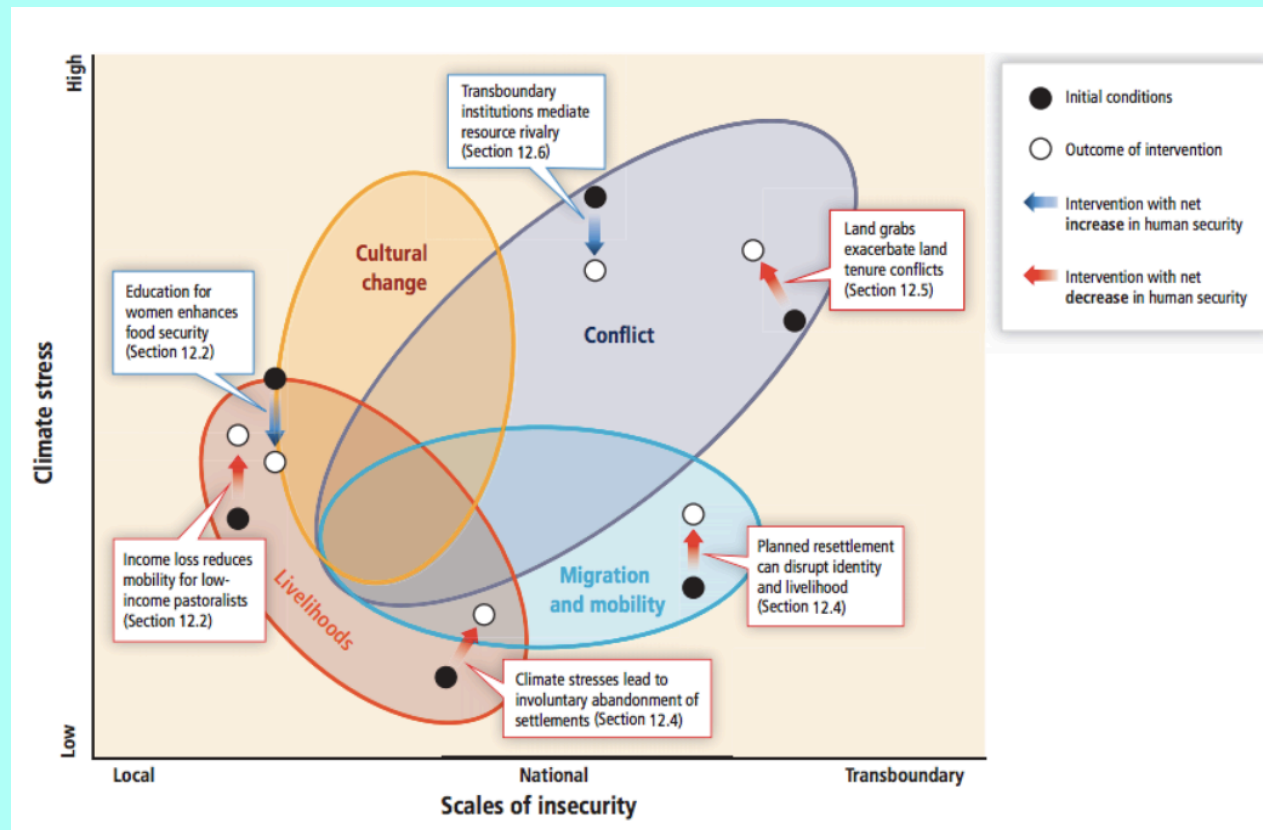
... collapsing the modes of subsistence, social tensions increase...

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... with the increase in social tensions, the rules of reciprocity are broken and...

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... vulnerable groups' survival is at stake.



# Adger et alii 2014. *Human Security*.

Cf: [https://ore.exeter.ac.uk/repository/bitstream/handle/10871/20276/WGIAR5-Chap12\\_HumanSecurity.pdf?sequence=1](https://ore.exeter.ac.uk/repository/bitstream/handle/10871/20276/WGIAR5-Chap12_HumanSecurity.pdf?sequence=1)

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What is the role of anthropology?

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**Helping local communities to understand and manage new risks connected to climate change**

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**Helping local communities to take decisions on their future and adopt proper resilience strategies**

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**Bridging local knowledge and expectations with the possibilities of International Cooperation**

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## Methods (qualitative research)

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**Participant observation**

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**Field diaries**

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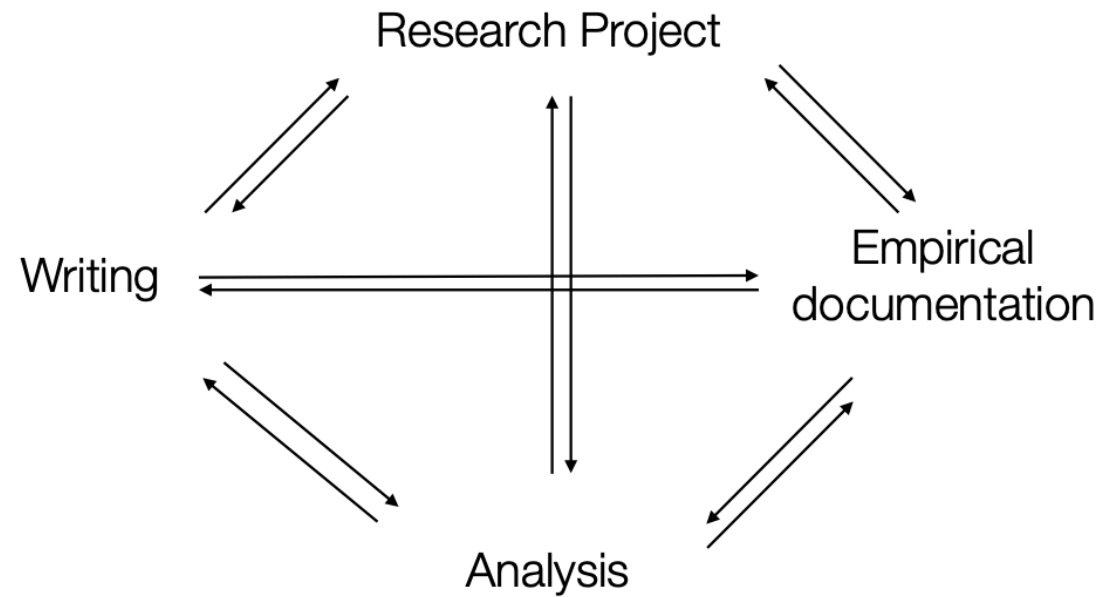
**Spontaneous interviews/life histories**

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**Semi-structured/structured interviews**

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# Qualitative research cycle







## MANDATE

- Reflect on how the cases proposed affect the communities considered. How would you provoke a social change?
  - Individuate the proper kind of investment/intervention to be proposed: empowerment?advocacy?...? Why? And how?
  - Individuate potential partners interested in and that can contribute to your project. Explain why.
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## CONSUMPTION OF BUSHMEAT

Nature and Diseases: How To Solve the Issue?

- <https://www.pianop.it/2020/03/30/due-corse-speciali-in-rischio/> (La Cina e il coronavirus, pt. 1 e 2)
- <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/15/how-did-the-coronavirus-start-where-did-it-come-from-how-did-it-spread-humans-was-it-really-bats-pangolins-wuhan-animal-market>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2020/jan/24/calls-for-global-ban-wild-animal-markets-amid-coronavirus-outbreak>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/feb/25/coronavirus-closures-reveal-vast-scale-of-chinas-secretive-wildlife-farm-industry>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/mar/18/tip-of-the-iceberg-is-our-destruction-of-nature-responsible-for-covid-19-aoe>

**Camilla T., Enrica and Matilde will work on this case study. You can decide to work together or individually.**



You have 20 minutes to  
expose your project.

Good job!